



# Go Wild Grants – Schools K-12

## Application Guidelines 2023-2024

Go Wild Grants support schools across Canada to implement projects that aim to protect or restore natural habitat while engaging school communities. Grants of \$1,500 are available to support practical, hands-on projects that will be completed during the 2023-2024 academic year.

[Apply](#) by Monday, October 23, 2023, to bring your idea to life!

### What type of projects do Go Wild Grants support?

Go Wild Grants are designed to help students and educators protect and restore habitat on school grounds, for the benefit of wildlife and people. Previous grantees have created native pollinator gardens and seed orchards, restored creeks and forests, monitored local wildlife, conducted biodiversity inventories, raised awareness about conservation issues, and more!

We will prioritize ideas that help school communities to:

- **Learn and discover** the local ecosystem, its history, biodiversity, how it works and what it needs
- **Take action for nature** by creating, restoring or protecting habitat with native plants and trees
- **Connect** with your communities to create lasting impact

### Need some inspiration?

#### [List of Go Wild Projects from 2022-2023](#)

Visit the bottom of the web page to find a list of schools who received funding last year.

#### [Student-based projects will restore and protect habitats across Canada](#)

Find inspiring examples of previous projects funded by Go Wild Grants.

#### [Six Easy Steps to Planting a Wildlife-Friendly Garden](#)

Learn about native plants and tips to keep in mind as you create your wildlife-friendly garden.

#### [How Seed Orchards Fill a Growing Need for Native Plants](#)

Learn about the benefits of [seed orchards](#) and get inspired to start your own.

#### [How to Start a Seed Garden](#)

Follow these illustrated steps to grow a cluster of native plants with the goal of harvesting their seeds.

## Assessment criteria

All proposed projects will be assessed by a panel of WWF-Canada staff using the following criteria:

- **Quality and relevance of project:** How and to what extent will the project contribute to improving habitat for the benefit of people and wildlife in the school community? Does it involve the key themes of learning and discovering, taking action for nature, and connecting with communities?
- **Impact:** Is the impact proposed realistic for the activities planned? How will the project be monitored, and results measured? How effective is the project in connecting students to nature in their community?
- **Sustainability and management:** Can this project be sustained beyond the first year? Is there a management plan for habitat created? Are there future plans to expand?
- **Implementation plan:** Is the implementation plan achievable? Can the goals be met according to the budget and timeline?
- **Budget:** Is the budget appropriate for the proposed activities? Does the project have any in-kind support?
- **Storytelling:** Does this project tell a good story? How creative is it? Is it fun?
- **Connections to Indigenous communities:** Preference will be given to projects that have meaningful connections to Indigenous learning and Indigenous-led conservation.

**Priority will be given to projects that use native seeds/plants/trees, as well as those who have significant impact in terms of people engaged, plants planted, and/or habitat stewarded.**

## Eligibility

Ideas that qualify for granting must:

- Take place within the school community during the 2023-2024 school year
- Be completed by June 24, 2024
- Not be associated with a for-profit entity

If selected for funding from WWF-Canada, you are agreeing to:

- Implement your idea and plan
- Share stories, information, photographs and possibly videos from your project. All funded projects will be profiled and promoted by WWF-Canada on various communications channels, where relevant.
- Submit a final report by June 24, 2024

## Eligible applicants

- Schools, classrooms, student groups in Canada
- Grades K – 12 (elementary, middle and secondary schools)
- Please note, applications must be completed by an educator or school employee. Students can connect with their teacher and apply together.

## Can I apply more than once?

You can apply as many times as you want, but we will only provide one grant per year for one of your school's project ideas.

## Eligible costs

Materials and services associated with the proposed activities are appropriate expenses – This could include (but is not limited to): plants, soil, equipment, and field costs needed to complete the project; honoraria for Indigenous elders and knowledge keepers; communication materials and promotional costs; costs associated with documenting the project; permits; facility or vehicle rental fees, if necessary. Materials and services associated with the proposed activities are appropriate expenses.

## Non-eligible costs

Staff salaries or any other fees that are not directly related to the proposed activity are not considered eligible expenses.

## Permits, insurance and liability waivers

Successful applicants are responsible for identifying and obtaining any permits, licenses or other approvals required to begin and/or complete the project. Successful applicants are also required to obtain and/or maintain adequate insurance coverage and implement participant liability waiver agreements in respect of all risks relating to the funded project.

## Timing and notification information

Applications must be submitted via the [online application form](#) by **October 23, 2023**, at [schools.wwf.ca](https://schools.wwf.ca). Applications that fail to adhere to the guidelines will not be accepted. Recipients will be notified by December 2023. Projects selected for funding will be publicly announced by February 2024. Only projects selected for funding will be contacted. Successful applicants will have until June 24, 2024, to complete projects and reporting requirements.

## Terms of reference

This call for proposals is not intended to be a formal legally binding procurement process. WWF-Canada reserves the right to seek clarification and supplementary information from any applicant. WWF-Canada may elect not to consider a proposal containing misrepresentations or any inaccurate, misleading or incomplete information. Once a project proposal has been submitted, it cannot be modified or changed.

## Questions?

For questions regarding Go Wild Grants, please email [gowild@wwfcanada.org](mailto:gowild@wwfcanada.org) or call us at 1-800-26-PANDA (72632).